

# Half-life and Binding Energy

Hand in Lab and test corrections

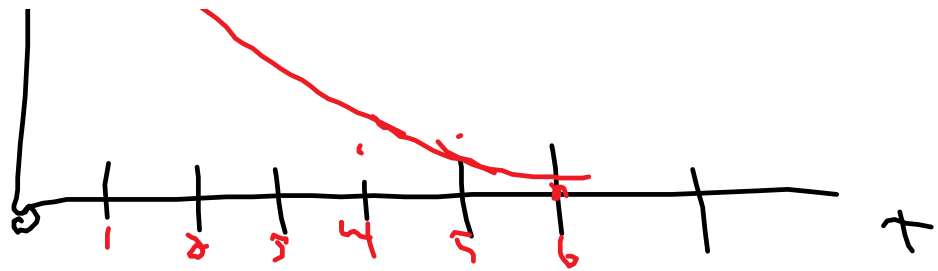
Get out 2 coins (borrow?)

## Model Radioactive Half-life

Each Student is a radioactive nucleus. Nuclei decay randomly - model by flipping 2 coins, 2 heads=decay.

Number of undecayed nuclei (students) $N$	number of flips, $t$
$21 = N_0$	0
15	1
8	2
4	3
2	4
2	5
0	6





Half-life - time for half of the nuclei to decay  
symbol =  $t_{1/2}$

the half-life is about 2 flips for our model  
if every half-life, half decay we can derive an equation:

$$N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{ of half-lives}} \quad \# \text{ half-lives} = t/t_{1/2}$$

$N$  is the number of undecayed nuclei, in number or in kg, or in activity, decays/s

$N_0$  is the original amount of the radioactive sample.

$t$  is time

$t_{1/2}$  is the half-life

p621 - carbon 14 decays with a half-life of 5730 years while polonium 194 decays in 0.7s

- eg. A sample discovered at an archeological dig contains a fraction of the original carbon 14 found in nature. How old is the sample if
- half the carbon 14 is left
  - it started with 4.0 micro grams  $\mu\text{g}$  and ended with 1.0 micro grams,  $\mu\text{g}$ .

c) if a sample started with 4.0  $\mu\text{g}$  of carbon 14, how much will be left after 30 000 years?

p622 Q9-12

5 minutes -

a) half of the sample = 1 half-life so it is 5730 years

b)  $N/N_0 = 1.0\mu\text{g}/4.0\mu\text{g} = 1/4 = 2$  half-lives  
 $2 \times 5730 = 11460$  years

c)  $N_0 = 4.0 \mu\text{g}$   $t = 30\,000$  years  $t_{1/2} = 5730$  years

$N = ?$   $N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{half-lives}}$

$N = 4.0 \times (1/2)^{30000/5730} = 0.11 \mu\text{g}$

$30000/5730 = 5.2356$

$0.5^{5.2356} = 0.0265$

$0.0265 \times 4 = 0.106$

## Binding Energy (Chapter 31)

Where does the nuclear energy come from?

mass of a proton =  $1.6605 \times 10^{-27} \text{kg}$ .

An easier unit to work with is the atomic mass unit,  $u = 1/12$  the mass of carbon 12

so the mass of a proton is  $1.007825 u$

the mass of neutron is  $1.008665 u$

Hey, but the isotopic mass of Helium is only  $4.002603u$ .

Helium is 2 protons and 2 neutrons.  
 $(2 \times 1.007825) + (2 \times 1.008665) = 4.03298$

the masses don't match. What's the deal?  
the mass defect (missing mass) =  
mass of protons and neutrons-isotopic mass  
 $4.03298 - 4.002603 = 0.030377$  u of mass  
missing. Where did it go?

Einstein - Theory of relativity included an  
equation  $E=mc^2$ , that mass can change into  
energy or back.

1u of mass changed into energy =  
 $E=mc^2$

E is energy, in Joules or MeV

m is mass in kg or u

c is the speed of light,  $2.9979 \times 10^8$  m/s

How much energy is created when 1 u =

$1.6605 \times 10^{-27}$  kg of mass is lost

$E = 1.6605 \times 10^{-27} \times (2.9979 \times 10^8)^2 =$

$1.6605 \times (2.9979)^2 = 14.9236 \times 10^{-11}$  J

MeV is a unit for energy for very small  
energies,  $= 1.602 \times 10^{-13}$  J

so  $14.9236 \times 10^{-11}$  J  $(1 \text{ MeV} / 1.602 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J})$   
 $= 931.49 \text{ MeV}$  for every u of mass lost

So when 2 protons and 2 neutrons change  
into Helium, 0.030377 u of missing mass gets  
changed into energy.

the conversion factor =  $931.49 \text{ MeV/u}$   
 $0.030377 \text{ u} \times 931.49 \text{ MeV/u}$   
 $0.030377 \times 931.49 = 28.295872 \text{ MeV}$  of energy  
is given off - this is what powers the stars -  
like our sun.

eg. What is the mass defect and binding  
energy (energy given off in the formation) of  
uranium 235,  
isotopic mass of  $235.043929918$   
atomic number 92  
mass of a proton is  $1.007825 \text{ u}$   
the mass of neutron is  $1.008665 \text{ u}$   
 $931.49 \text{ MeV}$  for every  $\text{u}$  of mass lost

p642 Q1-4

Nuclear fusion is when small nuclei bond  
together to form a larger nucleus.

mass 92 protons =  $1.007825 \times 92 = 92.7199$

mass of  $235 - 92 = 143$  neutrons =

$1.008665 \times 143 = 144.239095$

mass defect =  $(92.7199 +$

$144.239095) - 235.043929918 = 1.915065082 \text{ u}$

binding energy =  $931.49 \times 1.915065082 =$

$1,783.863973232 = 1783.9 \text{ MeV}$

# Half-life and Binding Energy

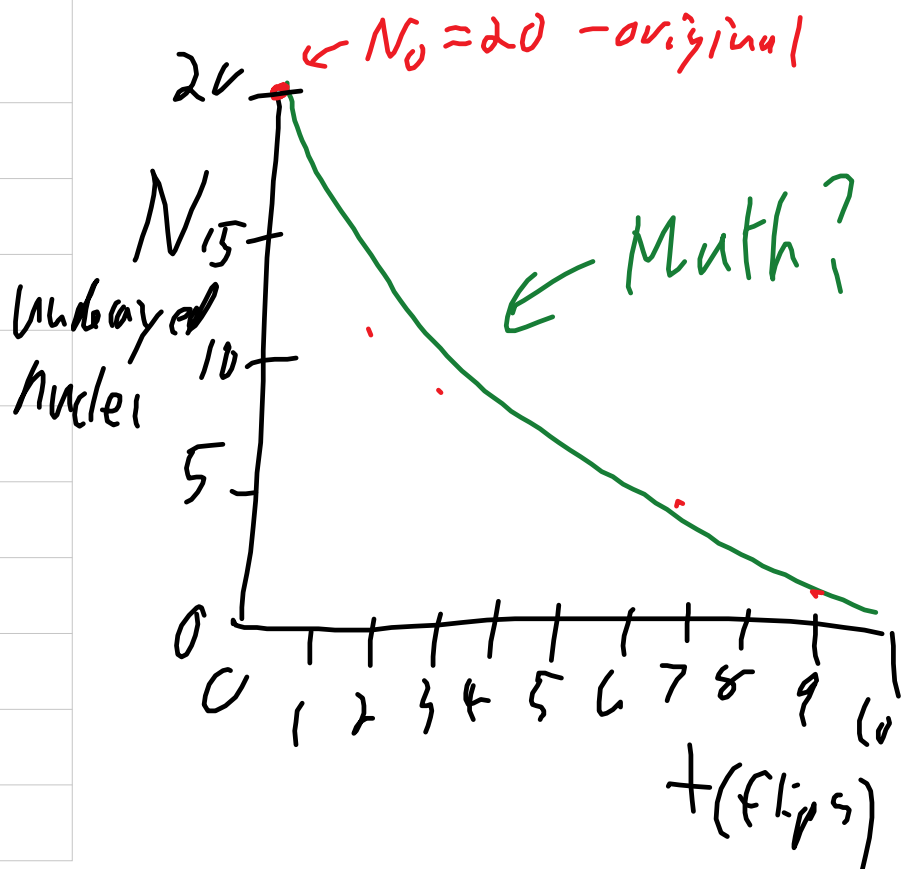
Hand in Lab and test corrections

Get out 2 coins (borrow?)

## Model Radioactive Half-life

Each Student is a radioactive nucleus. Nuclei decay randomly - model by flipping 2 coins, 2 heads=decay.

Number of undecayed nuclei (students) $N$	number of flips, $t$
$20 = N_0$	0
15	1
11	2
8	3
8	4
6	5
5	6
4	7
3	8
1	9



Half-life is the time for half of the nuclei to decay, on average. symbol  $t_{1/2}$

calculate the amount of undecayed nuclei,  $N$ , we can use the equation:

$$N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{ of half-lives}}$$

$N_0$  is the original amount, in g or number of atoms, or activity - decays/s

$$\# \text{ of half-lives} = t/t_{1/2}$$

eg p 621 table with half-life of carbon 14 is 5730 years while polonium 194 has a 0.7s half-life.

you have a sample of carbon 14.

a) what fraction of it is left after 5730 years?

$$1/2$$

b) if you start with 4.0  $\mu\text{g}$  and you end with 1.0  $\mu\text{g}$ , how old is the sample?

$$1/4 = 0.25 \text{ is } 2 \text{ half-lives}$$

$$N/N_0 = 1/4 \text{ so } \# \text{ of half-lives} = 2$$

$$2 \times 5730 = 11460 \text{ years}$$

a) if you start with 4.0  $\mu\text{g}$ , how much is left after 30000 years?

$$N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{ of half-lives}}$$

$$= 4.0 \times (1/2)^{(30000/5730)} = 0.1062 = 0.11 \mu\text{g}$$

$$\# \text{ of half-lives} = t/t_{1/2} = 30000/5730 = 5.2356$$

p622 Q9-12

## Binding Energy (ch 31)

Mass of an isotope doesn't match the mass of protons and neutrons. What's the deal?

eg. mass of a proton =  $1.6605 \times 10^{-27}$  kg.

An easier unit to work with is the atomic mass unit,  $u = 1/12$  the mass of carbon 12  
so the mass of a proton is 1.007825 u  
the mass of neutron is 1.008665 u

Hey, but the isotopic mass of Helium is only 4.002603u.

Helium is 2 protons and 2 neutrons.  
 $(2 \times 1.007825) + (2 \times 1.008665) = 4.03298$

mass defect is the difference between the isotopic mass and the mass of protons and neutrons

$4.03298 - 4.002603 = 0.030377$  u  
so Helium 4 has a mass defect of 0.030377 u

This mass that was lost in the formation of the atom, was given off as energy in nuclear fusion (small nuclei combining) in stars like our sun.

There is a conversion factor between mass and energy : 931.49 MeV/u



MeV is a unit for small energy, atomic level

$$\text{MeV} = 1.602 \times 10^{-13} \text{J}$$

(we can prove that conversion factor using  $E=mc^2$  - Einstein's equation from relativity)

$$1\text{u} = 1.6605 \times 10^{-27} \text{kg}$$

$c$  is the speed of light  $2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{m/s}$

$$E = 1.6605 \times 10^{-27} \times (2.9979 \times 10^8)^2$$

$$1.6605 \times 2.9979^2 = 14.9236 \times 10^{-11} \text{J}$$

$$14.9236 / 1.6022 = 9.3149 \times 10^2$$

$$= 931.49 \text{ MeV for each u)}$$

Ok so, if the mass defect of He 4 is

$$4.03298 - 4.002603 = 0.030377 \text{ u}$$

then the binding energy =

mass defect  $\times$  conversion factor

$$0.030377 \times 931.49 = 28.295872$$

the binding energy = 28.296 MeV per helium4 nucleus.

eg. What is the mass defect and binding energy (energy given off in the formation) of

uranium 235,

isotopic mass of 235.043929918

atomic number 92

mass of a proton is 1.007825 u

the mass of neutron is 1.008665 u

931.49 MeV for every u of mass lost

$$(92 \times 1.007825) + (143 \times 1.008665) = 236.958995$$

$$236.958995 - 235.043929918 = 1.915065082$$

so the mass defect of U235 = 1.9151u

therefore, binding energy = mass  
 defect  $\times 931.49 \text{ MeV/u}$   
 $1.915065082 \times 931.49 = 1,783.863973232$   
 binding energy = 1783.9 MeV

p622 Q9-12 and p642 Q1-4

## Half-life and Binding Energy

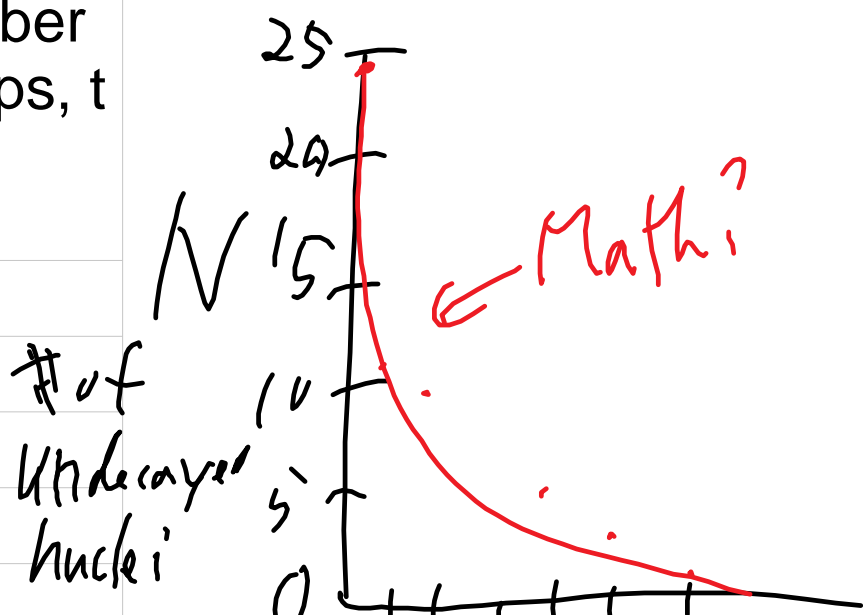
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Get out 2 coins (borrow?)

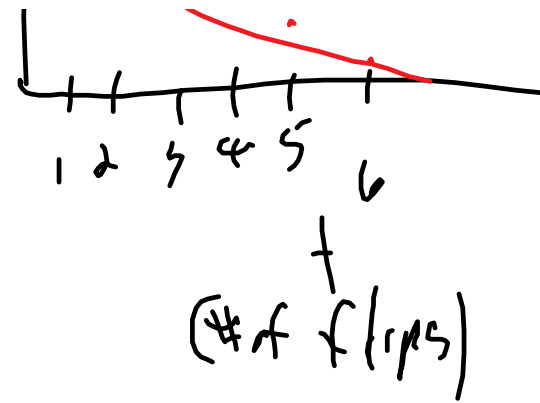
## Model Radioactive Half-life

Each Student is a radioactive nucleus. Nuclei decay randomly - model by flipping 2 coins, 2 heads=decay.

Number of undecayed nuclei (students) N	number of flips, t
24 = $N_0$	0
11	1
9	2
4	3
4	4



4	5	nuclei
4	4	
2	5	
1	6	



Half-life,  $t_{1/2}$ , is time for half of the radioactive nuclei to decay on average.

p621 table in the book

carbon 14 has a half-life of 5730 years

polonium 194 has  $t_{1/2} = 0.7 \text{ s}$

$$N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{ of half-lives}}$$

N is the amount of radioactive sample left after time t. measured in number of nuclei, g, activity.

$N_0$  is the original amount, at time  $t=0$ .

# of half-lives = time/half-life

eg. In an archeological dig you find a sample and measure the amount of carbon 14 and compare it to the normal natural occurrence.

a) how old is the sample if it is half the original amount of carbon 14?

5730 years - one half-life

a) if you start with  $4.0 \mu\text{g}$  and end with  $1.0 \mu\text{g}$ , how old is the sample?

$(1/2)^2 = 1/4$  so 2 half-lives so  $2 \times 5730 = 11460$  years

a) if you start with  $4.0 \mu\text{g}$ , how much is left after 30000 years?

$$N = N_0 (1/2)^{\# \text{ of half-lives}}$$

# of half-lives = time/half-life

$$= 30000/5730 = 5.2356 \text{ half-lives}$$

$$N = 4.0 \mu\text{g} (1/2)^{5.2356}$$

$$= 4 \times (1/2)^{5.2356} = 0.1062$$

$0.11 \mu\text{g}$

p622 Q9-12

## Binding Energy (ch31)

define the atomic mass unit,

$u = 1/12$  the mass of Carbon 12

but wait,

the mass of a proton is  $1.007825u$

the mass of a neutron is  $1.008665u$

6 protons and 6 neutrons don't add to 12, what's the deal with the missing mass - mass defect.

Einstein - theory of relativity proposed the relationship  $E=mc^2$ , mass  $m$  can change into energy,  $E$  by a factor of the speed of light,  $c = 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{m/s}$

So, when protons combine to form bigger nuclei in fusion, some mass is lost and

becomes energy - powers the sun - stars.

conversion factor 931.49 MeV/u

if 1 u of mass changes into energy

931.49 MeV of energy are produced.

MeV is a unit for small energies

$$1 \text{ MeV} = 1.6022 \times 10^{-13} \text{ J}$$

eg. What is the mass defect and binding

energy of Helium 4? isotopic mass of

4.002603u recall  $m_p = 1.007825\text{u}$

$m_n = 1.008665\text{u}$

helium 4 has 2 protons and 2 neutrons

$$(2 \times 1.007825) + (2 \times 1.008665) = 4.03298$$

mass defect

$$= 4.03298 - 4.002603 = 0.030377 \text{ u}$$

Binding energy = mass defect x conversion

$$0.030377 \times 931.49 = 28.295872$$

28.296 MeV of binding energy

what is the mass defect and binding energy

for uranium 235?

atomic number 92

isotopic mass: 235.043929918u

p642 Q1-4

$$(92 \times 1.007825) + (143 \times 1.008665)$$

$$= 236.958995 - 235.043929918$$

$$= 1.915065082 \text{ u mass defect}$$

binding energy mass defect x conversion

$$1.915065082 \times 931.49 = 1,783.863973232$$

1783.9 MeV of binding energy

$$1.915065082 \times 931.49 = 1,783.863973232$$

1783.9 MeV of binding energy

where did the conversion factor come from?

$$E = mc^2 = 1.6605 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg} \times (2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ m/s})^2$$

$$1.6605 \times 2.9979^2 = 14.9236 \times 10^{-11} \text{ J}$$

$$14.9236 \times (1/1.6022) = 9.3144 \times 10^2 \text{ MeV}$$

$$931.4 \text{ MeV}$$